

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 H-02

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O 051540Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7221

UNCLAS MOSCOW 12369

DEPT FOR VO AND EUR/SOV INFO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, UR (SURREY, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: OBIT: AMERICAN SEAMAN ROBERT SURREY (PHONETIC), MERCHANT
MARINERS DOCUMENT NUMBER Z326280986

1. IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET THAT I MUST INFORM YOU OF THE DEATH
OF SEAMAN ROBERT SURREY OF THE AMERICAN VESSEL "DREAM LAKES." THE
SOVIET MARITIME ORGANIZATION, INFLOT INFORMED THE AMERICAN EMBASSY
AT MOSCOW, USSR, ON AUGUST 5 OF HIS DEATH AUGUST 3 AT APPROXIMATELY
11:30 PM. SEAMAN SURREY DIED AT THE SOVIET PORT KHERSON, WHEN,
ACCORDING
TO INFLOT, HE FELL OVERBOARD AND DROWNED.

2. SEAMAN SURREY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY INFLOT, WHICH REPORTED THAT
HIS
MERCHANT MARINERS DOCUMENT WAS NUMBER Z326280986.

3. THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES REQUIRE THAT AN AUTOPSY BE PERFORMED IN
SUCH
CASES, AND PREPARATION AND REPATRIATION TO THE US OF REMAINS IS NOT
PERMITTED UNTIL THE AUTOPSY HAS BEEN PERFORMED. YOU SHOULD, THEREFORE,

CABLE THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, MOSCOW, USSR, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE GIVING
YOUR PERMISSION FOR THE AUTOPSY.

4. IT IS THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MASTER OF THE
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S/S "DREAM LAKES" HAS TAKEN CHARGE OF SEAMAN SURREY'S

PERSONAL EFFECTS AND WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR DISPOSITION.

5. WITH REGARD TO DISPOSITION OF SEAMAN SURREY'S REMAINS, THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT YOU CONTACT THE SHIPPING COMPANY WHICH OPERATES THE S/S /DREAM LAKES", THE LYKES BROTHERS COMPANY. THE REMAINS MAY EITHER BE PREPARED AND REPATRIATED TO THE US, CREMATED AND SHIPPED TO THE US, OR BURIED LOCALLY, THE SHIPPING COMPANY WILL ASSIST YOU IN MAKING THESE ARRANGEMENTS.

6. AFTER YOU HAVE CONSULTED WITH THE SHIPPING COMPANY, PLEASE INFORM THE EMBASSY BY TELEGRAM OF YOUR DECISION AND INCLUDE THE NAME OF THE DECEASED IN YOUR MESSAGE. PLEASE INCLUDE NAME AND ADDRESS OF US FUNERAL HOME YOU SELECT IF SHIPMENT DESIRED.

7. IT IS THE EMBASSY'S EXPERIENCE THAT A PERIOD OF 10-14 DAYS IS USUALLY REQUIRED FOR SHIPMENT OF REMAINS TO THE US. UPON COMPLETION OF ALL FORMALITIES A FOREIGN SERVICE REPORT OF DEATH PREPARED BY THIS OFFICE WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU.

8. IF NECESSARY, YOU MAY CONTACT THE CONSULAR SECTION OF THIS POST BY PHONING MOSCOW TELEPHONE 252-00-11.

9. BE ASSURED OF MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN YOUR BEREAVEMENT.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
MOSCOW USSR

STOESSEL

NOTE BY OC/T: MOSCOW 12370 PERTAINS.

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